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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 10/634,916 | 08/06/2003 | Yujiro Nomura | Q76870 | 6488 |
| 23373 | 7590 | 06/18/2004 | | EXAMINER |
| SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037 | | | | GRAINGER, QUANA MASHELL |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | | 2852 |

DATE MAILED: 06/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Offic Action Summary | Application N . | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/634,916 | NOMURA ET AL. |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | Quana Grainger | 2852 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Peri d for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disp sition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-4 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 5-9 and 11-15 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement filed 1-5-2004 and 8-6-2003 has been considered.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 5-9 and 13-15 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim 3, 5, 6, and 12. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims 5-9 and 13-15 not been further treated on the merits.

Drawings

4. The formal drawings are approved by the examiner.

Title

5. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1-3 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Muto Kenji (JP2002-19176A). Kenji teaches an image carrier cartridge comprising at least one image carrier rotatably supported and exposure means 30 disposed at an exposure position for said image carrier, said image carrier cartridge being designed to be detachable relative to the body of an image forming apparatus, wherein said exposure means 30 comprises an organic EL light emitting element array and an imaging optical system disposed in front of the organic EL light emitting element array, and a light shielding member for shielding at least: ultraviolet rays is provided around said exposure means. The light shielding member has a first light shielding member 52 disposed to cover said organic EL light emitting element array. The light shielding member has a second light shielding member 6 disposed to cover a part of said image carrier near said exposure means so as to prevent ultraviolet rays from being incident on the exposure position of said image carrier.

Kenji teaches an exposure head to be disposed at an exposure position for an image carrier, said exposure head comprising at least a transparent substrate, an organic EL light emitting element array having light emitting parts formed on said transparent substrate and aligned in lines, and an imaging optical system disposed in front of said organic EL light emitting element array, wherein light beams outputted from said light emitting parts pass through said transparent substrate and are projected toward said image carrier, said transparent substrate has surfaces being in parallel to each other, one of the surfaces being a surface on which said light emitting parts are formed and the other being a surface from which said light beams are projected, a member covering said transparent substrate is an opaque member, and all of faces of said opaque member confronting the

end faces of said transparent substrate are composed of light absorbing members. The transparent substrate is optically sealed by said opaque member.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

9. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kenji in view of Shimanari et al. (5,808,649).

Kenji does not discuss the developing device. Shimanari et al. teaches a detachable developing means and an exposure means. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teaching of Kenji with the image forming device of Shimanari et al. to obtain high definition image formation.

Allowable Subject Matter

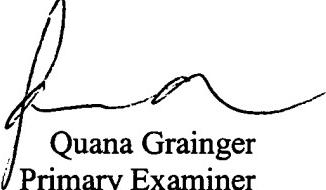
10. Claims 11-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 5-9 and 13-15 have not been treated.

Contact Information

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quana Grainger whose telephone number is 571-272-2135. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays between the hours of 7-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Arthur Grimley can be reached on 571-272-2136. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Quana Grainger
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2852

QG